(e) Work is going on in the following allotted field:

| *Name of the field* | *Allottees of Pvt. Sector* |
|---|---|
| 1. Mid and South Tapti - | Enron USA, RIL India. |

**Chinese Seismic Survey**

2558. SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Seismic Survey by Chinese Vessel in sensitive areas" as reported in "Business Standard" dated September 17, 1996;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that they do not survey militarily sensitive area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The vessel being used by DGH is US owned and flagged. The crew also do not contain any Chinese personnel. The vessel being used by ONGC in Panama flagged and the vessel is owned by offshore geo-physical joint company GNPC and COOC.

(c) All requisite precautions are taken involving Naval Security Inspection by Indian Navy prior to deployment of vessel. The master of the vessel signs an undertaking with the Naval Inspection Authority for bonafide seismic study only and clearance for all personnel on board the vessel have been duly taken from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Immigration Authority.

**Indian Space Research Organisation**

2859. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation has carried out several pilot Programmes to demonstrate the use at Satellite Communications for education and training; and

(b) if so, the details of these programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in cooperation with many other educational and developmental agencies, has organised a Training and Developmental Communication Channel using one transponder on the INSAT System. This activity was started in a small way in 1992 to explore the possible utilisation of one way video two way audio teleconferencing networks for training and development. A number of demonstrations were organliased to familirise the users with the network. Finding the network useful several users have set up exclusive received networks.

The utilisation of the network has been continually increasing and presently the channel is utilised on an average for 20 days every month.

Some of the important users of the network have been as follows :

- Gujarat Government: Panchayati Raj, DAWCRA, Khat Talwadi, Watershed, Jalsewa.
- M.P. Government : Panchayati Raj (Women), Health and Family Welfare (Auxilary Nursing Midwife's, (ANM's) and Watershed.
- Karnataka Government : Panchayati Raj (Women), Health and Family Welfare (Auxilary Nursing Midwife's, (ANM's) and Watershed.
- National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) : Primary teachers training, (Special Orientation for Primary Teacher, (SOPT) in Karnataka and M.P. States.
- Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU): Orientation programmes for academic councillors. Educational programmes for registered students in various disciplines like management, health and nutrition, distance education, etc.
- All India Management Association (AIMA) : Management education programmes and update seminars for students and working managers.
- Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE) : Distance education programmes in various technology and science subjects for award of professional degrees.
- Department of Women and Child Development : Training programmes for Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) (Anganwadi) functionaries. Tele-conferencing between policy planners and field level implementing officials to discuss the frame-work strategies and difficulties of Indian Mahila Yojana (IMY) programmes.
- Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA): Programmes for women organisation.
- Safai Vidyalaya : Programme for safai karmacharis of various municipalties.
- National Open School (NOS) : Orientation programme for traditional teachers (tutors) to

make them realise the change of their roles under the Open School System.

Currently two uplinks are available, one at IGNOU and the second at ISRO, Ahmedabad. The channel has now reached an operational stage. There are several regular users and many frequent users. The potential of its application in very important areas like primary school teacher training, panchayati raj training, training of health and ICDS anganwadi workers, training of trainers, etc. is great.

**Southern Gas Grid**

2860. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which the Southern Gas Grid Stands;

(b) the steps taken so far to implement it;

(c) the nature of bottleneck, if any, in the implementation of the project; and

(d) the steps taken to remove such bottlenecks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (d). The Southern States have completed the pre-feasibility study for the project. The feasibility of importing gas from Oman and Iran and the feasibility of importing LNG for the Southern States is under study. The project will be implemented when sufficient gas/ LNG is available.

**Sethusamudram Project**

2861. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals under the consideration of the Government to implement the Sethusamudram Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Absorption of Candidates Government Appointment**

2862. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of candidates recommended by the UPSC during 1994-95 and 1995-96, till date for appointment in Government service;

(b) the number of recommended candidates by the UPSC absorbed in the Government service; and

(c) the reasons for not absorbing the remaining candidates and steps contemplated by the Government to absorb them the Government jobs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c). This information is not Centrally monitored. However, the candidates recommended by the UPSC are generally reqiired to be appointed against the post for which they have been recommended though there may be some delay due to completion of pre-recruitment formalities or change in the vacancy position.

**STATEMENT**

| | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|---|---|---|
| By Examination | 4326 | 3991 |
| By Recruitment | 900 | 947 |
| By Promotion | 3869 | 3242 |
| By Transfer/on deputation | 290 | 416 |
| Total | 9385 | 8596 |

**Urban Poverty Alleviation Schemes**

2863. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various schemes under Urban Poverty Alleviation Programme going on in the country;

(b) the budgetary allocation made for these programmes during the last three years and for the current year;

(c) the number of people benefited thereby in each State during the above period;

(d) the amount actually provided to each State for these programmes during the same period; and

(e) the details of further plans of the Government to alleviate the urban poverty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) This Ministry is implementing three centrally sponsored schemes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY), Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme